

We Are Vermont Strong Gallery Exhibit

After Irene Floodgates Art Project-works collected from citizens of all ages from Waterbury, Moretown, Waitsfield and central Vermont in response to their experiences during and after Tropical Storm Irene. Photos by Gordon Miller Photography.

The Flood Series-four oil paintings by James Jahrsdoerfer.

Works given to Governor Shumlin-artwork and photos sent to the Governor from Vermonters impacted by Irene.

Fifteen works from Safeart-a collection of post-Irene responses from members of Healing Arts for Women, a part of Safeart, South Royalton.

Washington County Crossing Main Street-acrylic painting by Sarah-Lee Terrat of Waterbury Center, with apologies to Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze's Washington Crossing the Delaware.

Drawings on newsprint-sketches by Cilla Kimberly of Essex. Relief workers on Burlington Free Press pages.

Student work-from Randolph Elementary School (teacher Rebecca Carlton) and other Vermont schools. Flag, Artstorm project, and environmental art to re-seed eroded riverbanks.

Photo and painting-Walter H. Allen (photo) and Joyce Allen (painting).

A special thanks to all who made tonight's event possible including:

The National Life Group

The Chandler Center for the Arts

Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream

Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center

Lisa Hagerty, Sarah-Lee Terrat and the Organizing Committee

T.W. Wood Gallery and Arts Center

Marion Abrams

Greg Sharrow

The Vermont Youth Orchestra and Chorus

Shyla Nelson of The Good Earth Singers www.goodearthsingers.org

Jon Gailmor

Diane B. Martin

WE ARE VERMONT STRONGSM

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A Gathering to Commemorate the First Anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene

August 28, 2012

Gallery Art Exhibits 4:00 to 9:30 pm

Performance Program 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:35 pm)

The Chandler Center for the Arts

Randolph, Vermont

Free Event

First Come First Served

Street Food Vendors and Free Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream

The *Brave Little State of Vermont* speech is a name given to remarks delivered by Vermont native and U.S. President Calvin Coolidge at Bennington on September 21, 1928. Coolidge was touring his home state by train to assess progress of recovery following the devastating 1927 flood. Considered taciturn and nicknamed “Silent Cal,” Coolidge demonstrated unusual emotion in delivering his extemporaneous response to the human suffering and loss he had witnessed.

WE ARE VERMONT STRONG.

My fellow Vermonters:
 For two days we have been traveling through this state. We have been up the East side, across and down the West side. We have seen Brattleboro, Bellows Falls, Windsor, White River Junction and Bethel. We have looked toward Montpelier. We have visited Burlington and Middlebury. Returning we have seen Rutland.
 I have had an opportunity of visiting again the scenes of my childhood. I want to express to you, and through the press to the other cities of Vermont, my sincere appreciation for the general hospitality bestowed upon me and my associates on the occasion of this journey.
 It is gratifying to note the splendid recovery from the great catastrophe which overtook the state nearly a year ago. Transportation has been restored. The railroads are in a better condition than before. The highways are open to traffic for those who wish to travel by automobile.
 Vermont is a state I love. I could not look upon the peaks of Ascutney, Killington, Mansfield, and Equinox, without being moved in a way that no other scene could move me. It was here that I first saw the light of day; here I received my bride, here my dead lie pil- lowed on the loving breast of our eternal hills.
 I love Vermont because of her hills and valleys, her scenery and invigorating climate, but most of all because of her indomitable people. They are a race of pioneers who have almost beggared them- selves to serve others. If the spirit of liberty should vanish in other parts of the Union, and support of our institutions should languish, it could all be replenished from the generous store held by the people of this brave little state of Vermont.
 ~President Calvin Coolidge

Slideshow
 Images by VTrans employees and others accompanied by Grace Potter’s *Mad Mad River*
 Jeb Wallace-Brodeur images accompanied by the Barn Band’s *The Spirit of Vermont*

Bell Ringing..... Communities statewide

Welcome Governor Peter Shumlin

Emcee..... Sue Minter, Irene Recovery Officer

Samuel Barber, *Adagio for Strings*Members of the Vermont Youth Orchestra

W.A. Mozart, *Ave Verum Corpus, K 618* Members of the Vermont Youth Orchestra,
 Jeffrey Domoto, Conductor and Dr. Jeffrey Buettner, Conductor of VYO Chorus

Remarks..... Senator Patrick Leahy, Senator Bernie Sanders and Congressman Peter Welch

Remembrance of those lost..... Governor Peter Shumlin

Amazing GraceShyla Nelson, Vermont-based international
 classical singer and founder of Good Earth Singers

Remarks and introduction Lt. Governor Phil Scott

Excerpt from the documentary, *Flood Bound*Marion Abrams

Remarks and introduction Senator John Campbell, President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Reflections on Vermonters’ Irene stories Greg Sharrow, Vermont Folklife Center

A Year Later, an original song written for this event and *Long Ago Lady*..... Jon Gailmor,
 Vermont performer and songwriter

Video and remarks on volunteerism Hillary Laggis, UVM student and winner of the
 Nationwide Pearson Prize for Community Service and Scholarship

Remarks on the continuing need for giving David Coates, Chair of the Vermont Long Term
 Disaster Recovery Group and Staige Davis, Chair of the Vermont Community Foundation

Closing Remarks..... Sue Minter, Irene Recovery Officer

These Green Mountains Diane B. Martin, co-author of the Vermont State Song

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